

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IT 03/00206

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
**IPC 7 A61B1/005 A61B1/04 A61B1/018**

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
**IPC 7 A61B**

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

**EPO-Internal**

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 025 778 A (OPIE DECEASED ERIC A ET AL) 25 June 1991 (1991-06-25)  column 2, line 35 -column 3, line 1 column 4, line 32 -column 5, line 7 column 9, line 29-42 column 11, line 1-17	1,3,4,6, 8,10,11, 13,14, 17-19,25
Y		2,7, 26-30,35
A		5,9,12, 15,16, 20-24, 31-34
Y	US 2002/055668 A1 (PAUKER FRITZ) 9 May 2002 (2002-05-09) the whole document ---	2,7
		-/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 November 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

04/12/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Rivera Pons, C

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IT 03/00206

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2002/077546 A1 (BECKMANN FRIEDRICH-KARL ET AL) 20 June 2002 (2002-06-20) page 1 -page 4 -----	27-30,35
Y	US 5 689 365 A (TAKAHASHI SUSUMU) 18 November 1997 (1997-11-18) column 1, line 1 -column 4, line 36 -----	26

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IT 03/00206

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5025778	A	25-06-1991	WO	9114391 A2		03-10-1991
US 2002055668	A1	09-05-2002	DE	10010931 A1		13-09-2001
			EP	1132041 A2		12-09-2001
			JP	2001275935 A		09-10-2001
			US	2001053874 A1		20-12-2001
US 2002077546	A1	20-06-2002	DE	10051244 A1		16-05-2002
			EP	1199031 A2		24-04-2002
			JP	2002200058 A		16-07-2002
US 5689365	A	18-11-1997	JP	8082766 A		26-03-1996